

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS  
CURRENT STATUS OF ALL THE CLAIMS

1-47 (canceled)

48. (currently amended) A method of cloning a viable animal by nuclear transfer, wherein the method is capable of introducing one or more stable genetic modifications into the cloned animal, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a tissue sample comprising a population of NENS somatic cells as a source of nuclear donor material;
- (b) culturing the population of cells through ~~a plurality of~~ at least five passages so that a sufficient number of cell doublings occur to permit the introduction of controlled genetic modifications into the cells and confirmation of the propagation of the genetic modifications through subsequent culturing passes;
- (c) inserting a cell from the population, or a nucleus isolated from the cell, into an enucleated oocyte from the same species to form a cybrid;
- (d) activating the cybrid;
- (e) culturing the activated cybrid until greater than a 2-cell developmental stage;
- (f) transferring the activated cybrid into an appropriate host of the same species such that the activated cybrid develops into a fetus; and
- (g) maintaining the fetus in the host until the fetus is capable of surviving and maturing into a viable animal outside of said host.

49. (previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein cells from the population of cells undergo 10 or more cell doublings.

50. (previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein cells from the population of cells undergo 20 or more cell doublings.

51. (previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein the method further includes the steps of selecting a subpopulation of cells from the population of somatic cells and subjecting the subpopulation of cells to further culturing passes.

52. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~50~~ 51, wherein cells from the subpopulation of cells are subject to genetic modification to produce transformed cells.

53. (currently amended) ~~An~~ A nonhuman animal made by the method of claim 48.

54. (currently amended) A nonhuman transgenic animal made by the method of claim 51.

55. (previously presented) An organ or tissue obtained from an animal made by the method of claim 48.

56. (currently amended) ~~An~~ A non-human embryo made by the method of claim 48.

57. (currently amended) A non-human fetus made by the method of claim 48.

58. (previously presented) A cell line derived from cells obtained from an animal made by the method of claim 48.

59. (currently amended) A method for cloning a mammal with a cloning efficiency of better than ten percent (10%), said method comprising the steps of:

(a) inserting a somatic cell, or nucleus isolated from the somatic cell, derived from a somatic cell culture having undergone ~~a plurality of~~ at least five culturing passages so that a sufficient number of cell doublings has occurred to permit the introduction of controlled genetic modifications into the cells and confirmation of the propagation of the genetic

modifications through subsequent culturing passages, into an enucleated oocyte of the same species to form a cybrid;

(b) activating the cybrid;

(c) culturing the activated cybrid until greater than a 2-cell developmental stage;

(d) transferring the activated cybrid of step (c) into an appropriate host of the same species such that the activated cybrid develops into a fetus;

(e) maintaining the fetus in the host until the fetus is capable of surviving and maturing into a viable animal outside of the host;

wherein the cloning efficiency of such method is better than ten percent (10%).

60. (currently amended) A method for the cloning of a male mammal, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) Inserting a male somatic cell, or nucleus isolated from the somatic cell, selected from a somatic cell culture having undergone ~~a plurality of~~ at least five culturing passages so that a sufficient number of cell doublings has occurred to permit the introduction of controlled genetic modifications into the cells and confirmation of the propagation of the genetic modifications through subsequent culturing passages, into an enucleated oocyte to form of cybrid;

(b) activating the cybrid;

(c) culturing the activated cybrid until greater than a 2-cell developmental stage;

(d) transferring the activated cybrid of step (c) into an appropriate host such that the activated cybrid develops into a fetus;

(e) maintaining the fetus in the host until the fetus is capable of surviving and as a viable animal outside of said host;

61. (previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the male somatic cell is a male NENS somatic cell.

62. (previously presented) The method of claim 60, wherein the male somatic cell derives from a somatic cell culture wherein cells in the culture have undergone 20 or more cell doublings.

63. (canceled)

64. (currently amended) A method for producing an animal clone with genetically-engineered targeted genetic alterations, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) altering in a targeted manner the nuclear DNA of somatic cells to produce transformed cells;

(b) culturing the transformed cells through ~~a plurality of~~ at least five culturing passages so that a sufficient number of cell doublings has occurred to permit the introduction of controlled genetic modifications into the cells and confirmation of the propagation of the genetic modifications through subsequent culturing passages;

(c) inserting nuclear material from the transformed cells into an enucleate oocyte from the same species as the donor cell to form a cybrid;

(d) activating the cybrid;

(e) culturing the activated cybrid until greater than a 2-cell developmental stage to form an embryo;

(d) transferring the embryo into an appropriate host such that the embryo develops into a fetus; and

(e) maintaining the fetus in the host until said fetus is capable of surviving and maturing into a viable animal outside of said host;

65. (currently amended) ~~An~~ A non-human transgenic animal made by the method of claim 64.

66. (previously presented) An organ or tissue obtained from an animal made by the method of claim 64.

67. (currently amended) ~~An~~ A non-human embryo made by the method of claim 64.

68. (currently amended) A non-human fetus made by the method of claim 64.

69. (previously presented) A cell line derived from cells obtained from an animal made by the method of claim 64.

70. (currently amended) An improved method of cloning a mammal by nuclear transfer comprising:

(a) the introduction of a donor cell from the mammal, or donor cell nucleus, into an enucleated oocyte of the same species as the donor cell to form a cybrid;

(b) Inserting the cybrid into the uterus of a host mother of said species so as to cause implantation of the cybrid into the uterus to form a fetus, and permitting the fetus to develop into the cloned mammal,

wherein the improvement comprises using as the donor cell, or donor cell nucleus, a somatic cell that has been cultured through ~~a plurality of~~ at least five culturing passages that a sufficient number of cell doublings has occurred to permit the introduction of controlled genetic modifications into the donor cells and confirmation of the propagation of the genetic modifications through subsequent culturing passages, and wherein the donor cell, or donor cell

nucleus, has been genetically transformed to comprise at least one addition, substitution or deletion of a nucleic acid or nucleic acid sequence.

71. (currently amended) ~~At~~ A non-human animal made by the method of claim 69 70

72. (currently amended) An organ or tissue obtained from an animal made by the method of claim 69 70.

73. (currently amended) ~~At~~ A non-human embryo made by the method of claim 69 70.

74. (currently amended) A non-human fetus made by the method of claim 69 70.

75. (currently amended) A cell line derived from cells obtained from an animal made by the method of claim 69 70.

76. (previously presented) A process by which genetically-altered and non-genetically altered animals may be produced, such process comprising the steps of:

- (a) isolating a diploid donor cell;
- (b) culturing the diploid donor cell for more than about 20 cell doublings;
- (c) optionally altering in a targeted manner the genome of one or more cells of the diploid donor cells to create transformed donor cells;
- (d) optionally screening and selecting from the cells stable transformed cells;
- (e) reconstituting an embryo employing nuclei transfer techniques using nuclei from the cells of step (b), or optionally steps (c) or (d);
- (f) culturing the embryo *in vivo* or *in vitro* to a blastocyst;
- (g) optionally screening and selecting from the blastocysts stable transformed blastocysts;

(h) transfer of one or more the blastocysts of steps (f) or (g) to medium capable of allowing the one or more blastocysts to develop into a viable animal.

77. (currently amended) An animal made by the method of claim ~~75~~ 76.

78. (currently amended) An organ or tissue obtained from an animal made by the method of claim ~~75~~ 76.

79. (currently amended) ~~An~~ A non-human embryo made by the method of claim ~~75~~ 76.

80. (currently amended) A non-human fetus made by the method of claim ~~75~~ 76.

81. (currently amended) A cell line derived from cells obtained from an animal made by the method of claim ~~75~~ 76.